PUBLIC NOTICE

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Fishing and Boating Services

CLARIFICATION for Changes for the Chesapeake Bay Recreational and Charter Boat Summer and Fall Fishery— Effective 5/16/2020

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces changes to the striped bass recreational and charter boat summer and fall fishery for the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries, including the Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River. This notice supersedes all notices published prior to May 14, 2020 affecting the Chesapeake Bay striped bass recreational and charter boat summer and fall fishery.

RULES FOR MAY 16, 2020 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2020

- The summer and fall season is open May 16, 2020 through August 15, 2020 and September 1, 2020 through December 10, 2020. The season is closed on all other dates.
- Anglers may keep one striped bass per person per day.
- The minimum size for striped bass is 19 inches. Except for the Susquehanna Flats and Northeast River (described below), there is no maximum size.
- During a chartered fishing trip, the captain or mate may not land or possess striped bass for personal consumption.
- <u>Clarification:</u> Rules for the Susquehanna Flats and Northeast River fishing area, described in <u>COMAR 08.02.15.09</u>, are not changing from May 16 through May 31. In these areas, the maximum size remains 26 inches.

WHERE THIS NOTICE APPLIES

- This applies to areas in the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal tributaries, including the Maryland tributaries of the Potomac River, that are open in accordance with Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.15.09 and .10.
- Maps of Areas Open to Fishing

WHY THIS IS NECESSARY

This action is necessary to implement the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass. The clarification is necessary because the original notice did not specify that the rules were not changing for the Susquehanna Flats and Northeast River fishing area.

WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS

This applies to all individuals who catch striped bass recreationally.

EFFECTIVE TIME AND DATE

This notice is effective at 12:01 a.m. May 16, 2020.

AUTHORITY

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.15.12

Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio Secretary of Natural Resources